

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action of September 28, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 23, 24, 34, and 35 are pending in the application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter in this application. The first paragraph of the specification is amended as required by the Examiner. Claims 1, 34, and 35 are amended to address issues raised by the Examiner under the second paragraph of 35 USC § 112. No new matter is introduced by this Amendment. Entry of this Amendment, in order to place the application into condition for allowance or into better condition for appeal, is earnestly solicited.

35 USC § 112, second paragraph. On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner raises two issues under the second paragraph of 35 USC § 112. Claims 1, 34, and 35 are amended to address the two issues raised by the Examiner in this regard. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 7, 23, 24, 34, and 35 in their present form satisfy the requirements of the second paragraph of 35 USC § 112.

35 USC § 112, first paragraph. On pages 2-3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claim 24 under the first paragraph of 35 USC § 112, due to its use of the term "prevention". That term is deleted from the claim. It is respectfully submitted that claim 24 in its present form satisfies the requirements of the first paragraph of 35 USC § 112.

Conclusion. All of the rejections of record are overcome by the present Amendment. Accordingly, passage of this application to Issue is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited

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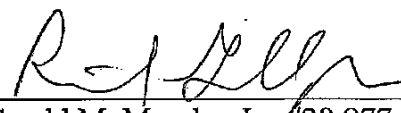
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to contact Applicants' representative Richard Gallagher, Registration No. 28,781, at (703) 205-8008 with any questions relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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